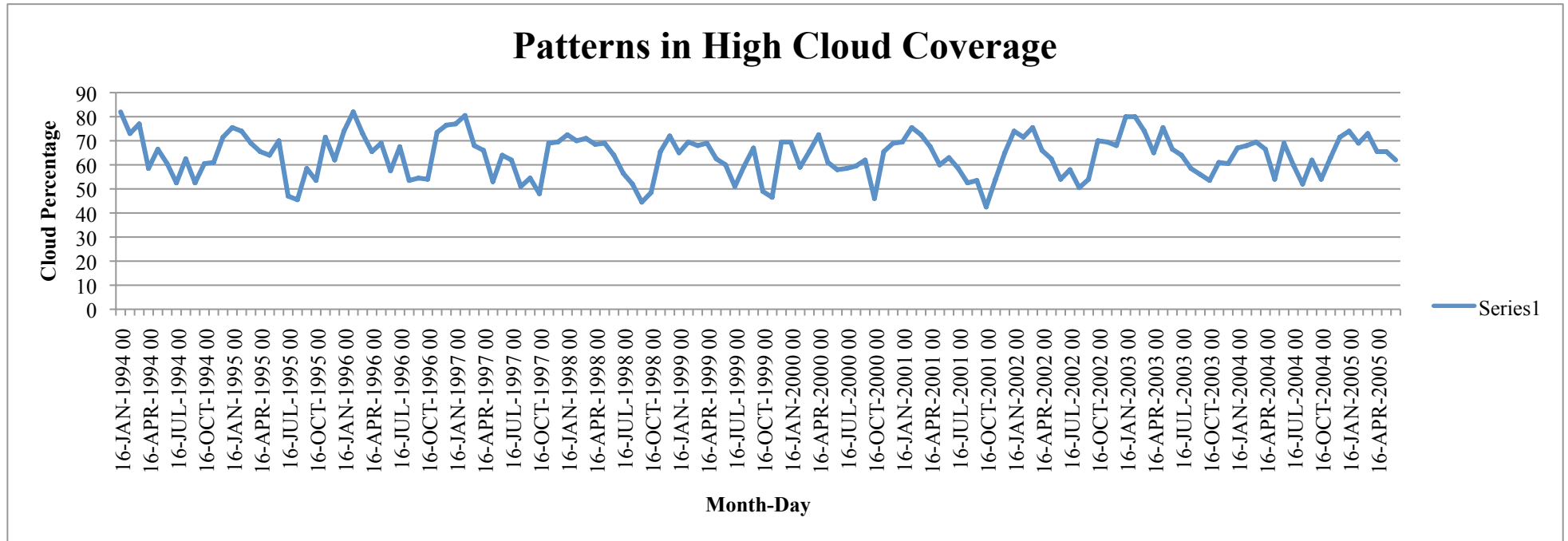


Lesson 50: Patterns in High Cloud Coverage



Questions:

1. Describe how the graph of cloud cover changes throughout the year. When is the coverage of clouds the greatest? Where is the coverage of clouds the least?

The cloud cover is usually the greatest in January, decreasing and then jumping back up during the winter months. The cloud coverage is the least during the summer months, like July. This graph above only shows January, April, July, October due to space constraints but the data gathered by students should include all months of the year—the chart may or may not depending on the computer program used and its auto-editing capabilities.

2. Looking at the multiple years of data, is there a stable seasonal pattern?

When looking over the course of ten years there is a very stable pattern of lower cloud cover during the summer seasons and increased cloud cover in winter. Student's data should also reflect this pattern.

Extensions:

1. You are on a team that wants to start an airline company. Pick three airports for which you might want to offer flight service. Which type of cloud coverage do you think will matter most to airline company pilots?

2. Use the Live Access Server to determine which airport location has the least high cloud coverage. Also look at which airport has the least low cloud coverage.